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# Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 HA-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00
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AMEMBASSY LONDON VOMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0119

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PDEV, PINT, PEPR, RH, UK
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: INTERNAL TALKS

REF: (A) CAPE TOWN 0117, (B) PRETORIA 0466,

1. REF B REPORTS APPROACH BY SITHOLE REPRESENTATIVE MUKONO AND HIS MEETING IN PRETORIA WITH BRITISH POLITICAL COUNSELOR AND U.S. EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER. FOLLOWING IS A REPORT ON THE PAPERS MUKONO HANDED OVER TO US AND THE BRITISH.

2. MUKONO'S BASIC PURPOSE WAS TO DELIVER THE MINUTES COVERING THE EIGHTH THROUGH THE ELEVENTH SESSIONS OF THE INTERNAL TALKS, THE LAST SESSION COVERED BEING ON JANUARY 3,
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AND FOUR DIFFERENT SITHOLE POSITION PAPERS. THESE TALK SESSIONS COVER THE DEBATES ON THE NUMBER OF WHITE SEATS TO BE ALLOTED IN PARLIAMENT AND END BEFORE THAT ISSUE WAS DECIDED. AGAIN, THESE MINUTES ARE BY THE SITHOLE CAMP AND ARE NOT OFFICIAL ONES.

3. VERY LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE TRANSPIRES IN THESE SESSIONS

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AND AN IMPRESSION IS LEFT OF FRICTION, PETTY BICKERING AND SOME BITTERNESS. THE ONLY REFERENCES TO OUTSIDE POWERS IN THESE SESSIONS IS IN THE ELEVENTH WHEN BOTH SMITH AND SITHOLE ACCUSE "OUTSIDERS" OF TRYING TO UNDERMINE THE TALKS. SMITH MENTIONS OWEN AND CARVER BY NAME IN THIS CONNECTION.

4. THE SITHOLE POSITION PAPERS ALSO HASH OVER OLD GROUND, ACCEPT FOR THE LAST ONE, DATED JANUARY 20. IT BEGINS BY GIVING A FIRM COMMITMENT TO A FIVE YEAR DURATION FOR GUARANTEED WHITE REPRESENTATION IN PARLIAMENT. IT SAYS THE REASONS ARE: A) ANYTHING LONGER WOULD IN EFFECT PUT OFF "GENUINE INDEPENDENCE;" B) ANYTHING LONGER WOULD NOT END THE WAR; C) ANYTHING LONGER WOULD NOT GAIN INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTANCE; D) AND, ANYTHING LONGER WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE "TO SELL" TO ANC (SITHOLE) FOLLOWERS. THE PAPER ENDS, HOWEVER, BY OFFERING A COMPROMISE OF SORTS. IT SAYS THE QUESTION OF WHITE REPRESENTATION COULD BE MADE SUBJECT OF PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW "AFTER FIVE YEARS OR ONE LIFE OF PARLIAMENT, WHICHEVER IS LONGER."

5. MUKONO, AFTER PRESENTING THE PAPERS TO CHISHOLM AND MCDONALD, STATED THAT THE SITHOLE GROUP IS STANDING FIRM ON THE FIVE-YEAR TIME LIMIT. HE SAID THAT MUZOREWA, CHIRAU AND SMITH HAD NOW AGREED ON TEN YEARS, AND THEY HAD ACTIVELY CONSIDERED CARRYING ON WITHOUT SITHOLE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS BECAUSE OF HIS CONFIDENTIAL

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STAND. MUKONO SAID THE RESPECTIVE EXECUTIVES OF MUZOREWA AND CHIRAU HAD REJECTED LEAVING SITHOLE OUT, BUT THAT THE IDEA WAS STILL BEING CONSIDERED BY THE LEADERS. MUKONO SAID THAT THE TALKS NOW TAKING PLACE AT SMITH'S RESIDENCE WERE NOT BEING RECORDED AND WERE ONLY ATTENDED BY SMITH, THE NATIONALIST LEADERS THEMSELVES AND "ONE OR TWO OTHERS". HE SAID THE ONLY THING BLOCKING AGREEMENT WAS SITHOLE'S TAND ON THE TIME LIMIT.

6. COMMENT: CONTRARY TO MUKONO'S INSISTENCE THAT SITHOLE WAS STANDING FIRM ON THE 5-YEAR TIME LIMIT, REF B SUGGESTS SITHOLE HAS IN FACT NOW REACHED AGREE-MENT WITH SMITH, MUZOREWA AND CHIRAU ON T S EIGHT PRINCIPLES, INCLUDING TEN YEARS DURATION FOR THE BLOCKING MECHANISM. SITHOLE'S EFFORTS THROUGH GABELLAH AND MUKONO TO PERSUADE US OF HIS TENACITY IN THE TALKS WERE TRANSPARENTLY SELF-SERVING AND EXAGGERATED. AS WE HAVE NOTED BEFORE, SITHOLE HAS PROVIDED THESE BRIEFINGS IN ORDER TO CLAIM AT SOME LATER DATE THAT HE HAD CONSULTED WITH US ON THE TALKS AND KEPT US FULLY INFORMED.
BOWDLER

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# Message Attributes

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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960
**Decaption Note:**
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED
**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014
**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
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**Executive Order:** X1
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**TAGS:** PDEV, PINT, PEPR, RH, UK
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